

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN OCTOBER 2004

Producers mined 1.46 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in October 2004 (table 1). Output was 5% more than that of September 2004, and 3% less than that of October 2003. Synthetic gypsum production was 736,000 metric tons (t) in October 2004 (table 1), which was 5% more than that of September 2004, and 1% more than that of October 2003. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the largest domestic consumer of gypsum. During January through September 2004, synthetic gypsum accounted for 6.44 million metric tons (Mt), or about 25%, of the 26.1 Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 595,000 t (table 2), 11% less than that of September 2004, and slightly less than that of October 2003.

Output of calcined gypsum for October (table 1) was 1.90 Mt, slightly more than that of September 2004, and slightly less than that of October 2003. Sales of board products were about 2.9 billion square feet (270 million square meters), slightly more

than that of September 2004, and slightly less than that of October 2003.

U.S. Government import and export data for October 2004 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in September 2004 were 835,000 t (table 3), 14% more than that of August 2004, and 20% more than that of October 2003. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Canada, for September 2004 were 57,000 t, equivalent to 68 million square feet (6.3 million square meters). These imports were 12% more than that of August 2004 and 19% more than those of August 2003. Wallboard exports to 26 countries and territories in September 2004 were 7,700 t, equivalent to 9.2 million square feet (857,000 square meters). These exports were 8% more than those of August 2004 and 75% more than those of September 2003.

All percentages in this report were computed based on unrounded data.

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1, 2}

(Metric tons)

	2004			2003
	October	September	January-October	January-October
Crude:				
Mined ⁴	1,460,000	1,390,000	14,000,000	13,600,000
Imported ⁵	NA	835,000	NA	6,690,000
Exported ⁵	NA	12,000	NA	162,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁶	736,000	700,000	7,180,000	6,830,000
Total supply	NA	2,920,000	NA	27,000,000
Calcined:				
Produced	1,900,000	1,900,000	17,800,000	17,000,000
Imported ⁷	NA	292	NA	13,100
Exported ⁷	NA	10,700	NA	166,000
Total supply	NA	1,890,000	NA	16,900,000

NA Not available.

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Includes revisions to previous months' data.

⁴Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

⁵Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

⁶Reported production only.

⁷Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000.

TABLE 2
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE^{1, 2}

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2004			2003
	October	September	January-October ³	January-October
Uncalcined: ⁴				
Portland cement	410,000	480,000	3,540,000	3,260,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	186,000	180,000	1,600,000	1,840,000
Total	595,000	660,000	5,140,000	5,100,000
Calcined:				
Board products ⁵	2,430,000	2,400,000	23,800,000	22,700,000
Plaster	13,100	13,000	138,000	208,000
Total	2,440,000	2,410,000	24,000,000	22,900,000
Board products: (Thousand square feet) ⁶				
Regular board	1,790,000	1,760,000	17,500,000	16,100,000
Type X board	857,000	848,000	8,490,000	7,990,000
Other	265,000	266,000	2,620,000	2,490,000
Total supply	2,910,000	2,880,000	26,600,000	26,600,000

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Includes revisions to previous months' data.

⁴Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

⁵Includes weight of paper and other materials.

⁶One square meter equals 10.76 square feet.

TABLE 3
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION¹

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2004			2003
	September	August	January-September	January-September
Argentina	--	--	--	18
Austria	--	--	8	14
Canada	612,000	476,000	5,000,000	4,110,000
China	--	--	41,300	--
Costa Rica	--	--	53	--
Dominican Republic	14,600	6,690	99,100	61,100
Guatemala	--	--	--	22
Italy	--	--	26,900	11
Jamaica	--	--	19,200	16
Japan	--	--	3	--
Mexico	164,000	193,000	1,580,000	1,270,000
Peru	--	2	2	--
Spain	43,900	60,100	540,000	549,000
Sweden	--	--	--	2
United Kingdom	--	--	21	55
Total	835,000	735,000	7,300,000	5,990,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES^{1, 2}

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption ³	Production ⁴	Imports ⁵	Exports ⁵
2003:				
August	2,150	1,320	834	12
September	2,120	1,440	696	15
October	2,210	1,510	713	13
November	2,070	1,310	766	13
December	2,120	1,300	830	17
January-December	24,400	16,300	8,300	167
2004:				
January	2,100	1,350	761	13
February	1,810	1,260	559	12
March	2,180	1,390	806	14
April	2,140	1,400	751	9
May	2,230	1,340	905	11
June	2,200	1,280	936	14
July	2,570	1,580	1,010	14
August	2,240	1,520	735	9
September	2,220	1,390	835	12
October	NA	1,460	NA	NA

NA Not available.

¹Excludes synthetic gypsum.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

³Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting the exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

⁴Production data are from the semiannual gypsum canvasses of the non-wallboard producers, annual canvass of all producers, and from monthly data furnished by the Gypsum Association from the wallboard producers.

⁵Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGIONS^{1,2}

(Thousand square feet)³

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
2004:											
October:											
Lath	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Veneer base	24,900	2,510	8,380	695	8,380	3	88	247	1,270	86	46,600
Sheathing	1,670	3,910	6,180	5,790	15,400	2,300	10,700	5,100	7,880	2,440	61,400
Regular gypsum board	42,700	153,000	229,000	114,000	502,000	127,000	208,000	177,000	204,000	36,500	1,790,000
Type X gypsum board	26,400	84,800	130,000	63,000	139,000	28,600	84,800	104,000	186,000	9,460	857,000
Predecorated board	485	752	895	434	1,290	418	648	349	511	32	5,810
5/16 Mobile home board	--	877	6,140	--	9,020	13,700	6,810	513	1,060	--	38,100
Water/moisture resistant board	5,160	19,500	14,000	5,790	25,000	4,980	10,200	9,210	15,100	3,960	113,000
Total	101,000	266,000	395,000	189,000	700,000	177,000	321,000	296,000	416,000	52,400	2,910,000
January- October:											
Lath	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Veneer base	238,000	26,500	81,900	7,980	86,300	230	515	2,880	15,400	502	460,000
Sheathing	14,800	42,600	48,300	59,300	144,000	26,700	111,000	58,800	84,800	21,500	612,000
Regular gypsum board	422,000	1,470,000	2,250,000	1,150,000	4,880,000	1,240,000	2,100,000	1,660,000	1,990,000	319,000	17,500,000
Type X gypsum board	263,000	846,000	1,240,000	660,000	1,370,000	294,000	884,000	1,010,000	1,850,000	74,900	8,490,000
Predecorated board	3,110	6,530	9,120	5,080	13,000	3,890	8,380	3,800	5,850	563	59,300
5/16 Mobile home board	--	9,380	50,500	1	97,000	119,000	67,400	6,370	9,020	188	359,000
Water/moisture resistant board	51,900	195,000	148,000	60,600	243,000	46,000	108,000	89,700	152,000	35,100	1,130,000
Total	992,000	2,600,000	3,830,000	1,940,000	6,840,000	1,730,000	3,280,000	2,830,000	4,110,000	451,000	28,600,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Sales region equivalent to U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Division as follows: New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT); Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA); East North Central (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI); West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD); South Atlantic (DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV); East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN); West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX); Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY); Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA).

³One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

Source: Gypsum Association.